



Crop Weather Report

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Montana Field Office · 10 W 15th St, Suite 3100 · Helena, MT 59626
(406) 441-1240· (406) 441-1250 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov/mt

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Weather Summary

The western and central districts of Montana received light precipitation last week, while cities in the northeast and southeast districts received above normal moisture. Ekalaka had the most moisture at 4.53 inches. Gold Butte had a record high precipitation on April 30th with 0.86 of an inch, breaking the old record of 0.30 of an inch. Miles City had a record rainfall on May 1st of 1.31 inches, breaking the old record of 0.86 of an inch. Highs were mostly in the 70s to 80s, and lows were mostly in the 20s. Huntley had the weekly high temperature of 85 degrees, and Shelby had the low temperature of 7 degrees. Topsoil moisture adequate and surplus is 46 percent, above last week's 36 percent, but below last year's 88 percent and the five-year average of 69 percent. Subsoil moisture adequate and surplus is 23 percent, slightly above last week's 22 percent, but below last year's 69 percent and the five-year average of 50 percent. Both topsoil and subsoil moisture conditions continue to improve. The number of days suitable for field work was 5.2 days.

The weather outlook for May 12th through May 18th is for below normal temperatures and near normal precipitation east of the continental divide and for below normal temperatures and above normal precipitation west of the divide. Normal temperatures for this period in Montana are highs in the mid 50s to the upper 60s and lows in the upper 20s to the lower 40s.

Soil Moisture & Field Work Table	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Avg
Topsoil Moisture				
Very Short	23	29	1	10
Short	31	35	11	21
Adequate	41	35	75	62
Surplus	5	1	13	7
Subsoil Moisture				
Very Short	39	39	6	20
Short	38	39	25	30
Adequate	22	21	61	46
Surplus	1	1	8	4
Days Suitable for Fieldwork				
Days	5.2	4.7	4.7	5.0
Field Tillage Work in Progress				
None	10	25	7	9
Just Started	21	27	21	18
Well Underway	69	48	72	73

Livestock Table	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Avg
Receiving Supplemental Feed				
Cattle & Calves	70	81	51	55
Sheep & Lambs	67	79	51	55
Livestock Grazing				
Open	81	82	90	88
Difficult	12	12	4	5
Closed	7	6	6	7
Livestock Birthing				
Calving Complete	91	87	94	93
Lambing Complete	78	74	83	80

Field Crops Report

Areas in the north central district are experiencing very dry conditions, and some winter wheat fields in the district may be reseeded. Farmers in the southeast district are in need of warm weather which will melt recent snowfall and allow crops and grass to grow. Farmers in the south central part of the state continue to irrigate due to the lack of moisture.

Crop Progress and Condition Table	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Avg
Winter Wheat				
Very Poor	10	12	1	4
Poor	16	17	4	10
Fair	37	36	23	27
Good	33	30	51	44
Excellent	4	5	21	15
Winter Wheat- Spring Stages				
Still Dormant	1	3	0	n/a
Greening	30	48	8	n/a
Green and Growing	69	49	92	n/a
Planted				
Barley	61	48	64	65
Durum Wheat	43	26	35	30
Oats	62	46	59	48
Spring Wheat	71	48	57	59
Dry Peas	87	68	63	n/a
Lentils	59	31	56	n/a
Corn	24	9	36	27
Emerged				
Barley	14	6	21	24
Durum Wheat	4	n/a	n/a	n/a
Oats	11	6	19	13
Spring Wheat	12	2	10	15
Dry Peas	5	1	8	n/a
Lentils	9	n/a	n/a	n/a
Boot Stage				
Winter Wheat	2	1	4	2

Livestock Report

Seven percent of pastures are still closed for grazing due to recent snowfall in the eastern portion of the state. So far, there have been no reports of livestock losses from the snow. More livestock are receiving supplemental feed this year than last year at this time and the five-year average. Range and pasture feed conditions improved from the previous week with 22 percent rated good to excellent compared to 17 percent the previous week.

Range & Pasture Table	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Avg
Range and Pasture Feed Condition				
Very Poor	16	19	1	10
Poor	29	31	9	17
Fair	33	33	29	34
Good	14	13	48	32
Excellent	8	4	13	7
Moved to Summer Ranges				
Cattle & Calves	18	10	26	n/a
Sheep & Lambs	13	8	25	n/a

Weather Information for the Week ending 05/04/2008

Station ID	Temperature					GDDs		Precipitation					
	Temperature			GDDs		This Week		April 1 to Date			October 1 to Date		
	Hi	LOW	AVG	B50	DFN	Total	DFN	Total	DFN	%NRM	Total	DFN	%NRM
NORTHWEST													
Alberton	75	26	46	5	-9	0.18	-0.17	0.93	-0.38	71	10.21	+3.14	144
Anaconda	70	23	44	6	+4	0.01	-0.34	1.07	-0.31	78	7.54	+1.73	130
Clinton	73	23	45	5	+5	0.13	-0.20	0.84	-0.39	68	9.39	+0.64	107
Corvallis	74	23	46	10	-8	0.00	-0.32	0.33	-0.88	27	4.66	-0.82	85
Creston	71	27	45	2	-11	0.36	-0.13	1.13	-0.88	56	4.95	-5.31	48
Deer Lodge	71	20	43	3	+3	0.04	-0.28	0.48	-0.44	52	2.88	-0.48	86
Drummond	72	21	44	4	-5	0.06	-0.29	0.75	-0.46	62	5.49	-0.25	96
Hamilton	72	25	47	12	-2	0.00	-0.34	1.48	+0.21	117	4.83	+0.65	116
Kalispell	73	25	46	4	-7	0.21	-0.15	0.54	-0.91	37	5.62	-3.65	61
Missoula	75	26	48	12	-2	0.06	-0.29	0.49	-0.82	37	5.22	-1.85	74
Olney	70	21	41	0	+0	0.08	-0.34	0.21	-1.42	13	12.93	-0.54	96
Polson	71	29	46	7	-11	0.09	-0.35	0.86	-0.76	53	5.17	-2.91	64
St Ignatius	74	30	47	11	-9	0.19	-0.29	1.11	-0.62	64	5.16	-2.81	65
Seeley Lake	70	23	44	0	-1	0.06	-0.29	0.78	-0.50	61	11.45	-1.39	89
Sula	71	17	42	3	+3	0.30	-0.13	1.22	-0.55	69	6.98	-0.90	89
Superior	75	26	50	17	-5	0.10	-0.25	0.55	-0.85	39	9.68	-0.07	99
Swan Lake	72	25	43	1	-4	0.11	-0.38	1.62	-0.33	83	18.23	-0.29	98
Thompson Falls	76	28	48	11	-16	0.12	-0.30	1.18	-0.58	67	17.34	+2.05	113
West Glacier	67	24	45	0	-9	0.21	-0.28	1.13	-0.95	54	19.31	+1.61	109
NORTH CENTRAL													
Chester	75	26	48	10	-8	0.12	-0.15	0.63	-0.26	71	2.26	-1.03	69
Chinook	77	26	47	10	-11	0.12	-0.28	0.53	-0.74	42	2.76	-1.59	63
Choteau	73	26	48	10	-5	0.05	-0.27	0.80	-0.15	84	3.16	+0.43	116
Cut Bank	71	26	47	10	+7	0.00	-0.37	0.14	-1.01	12	1.07	-2.54	30
Ft Assinniboine	74	27	48	14	-8	0.00	-0.38	0.28	-0.97	22	1.96	-2.54	44
Fort Benton	75	26	47	10	-22	0.10	-0.31	1.14	-0.34	77	3.65	-1.51	71
Goldbutte	72	28	47	9	-5	0.89	+0.52	1.59	+0.25	119	3.87	-0.62	86
Harlem	80	26	50	18	-4	0.14	-0.19	0.29	-0.68	30	1.75	-1.69	51
Havre	77	25	48	15	-6	0.00	-0.32	0.23	-0.86	21	1.71	-2.51	41
Malta	79	32	52	25	+4	0.68	+0.31	0.86	-0.29	75	4.53	+0.41	110
Rudyard	78	21	47	13	-6	0.05	-0.27	0.75	-0.17	82	1.44	-1.32	52
Shelby	72	7	44	8	-6	0.00	-0.38	1.44	+0.14	111	2.73	-1.53	64
Turner	76	27	49	14	-1	0.28	+0.03	0.35	-0.37	49	1.57	-1.41	53
Valier	70	27	48	13	-2	0.06	-0.31	0.40	-0.77	34	2.42	-1.08	69
NORTHEAST													